聖痕のクェイサー

15

Chuang Yuan RED Comics
RED

原作 吉野弘幸 YOSHINO HIROYUKI
漫画 佐藤健悦 KENETSU SATO

THE QWAGER OF STIGMATA

15

HIROYUKI YOSHINO & KENETSU SATO

Champion RED Comics

秋田書店

THE AWAKEN OF STIGMATA

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原作 吉野弘幸
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CONTENTS

［第68話］
追憶のラビリンス
3

［第69話］
再会の街角
33

［第70話］
女帝起つ
75

［第71話］
力あるもの
111

［第72話］
真実の二つの貌
147

STORY

【前巻までのお話】女性の豊乳を置うことで、特定元素を自在に量ることができる能力者、その名もクェイサー。アトスの養成所「スコーレ」へと量還した量のクェイサーのサーシャ。だが、まふゆの心量に呪量のサーキットが仕掛けられていることを知ったサーシャは、解呪が可能だという至量女アガサの寝所に忍び込む。アガサはサーシャに対して至量女誕生量で儀礼するように命じるが……。

聖痕のクェイサー 15

初出／チャンピオンRED 2012年7月号～11月号

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Chapter 68: The Labyrinth of Memories

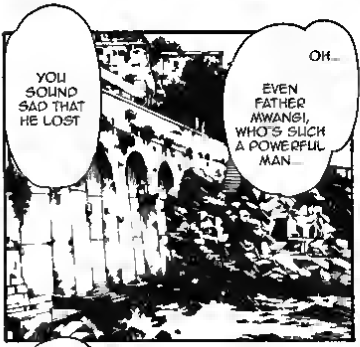
Chapter 68: The Labyrinth of Memories

KRRRSSH
YOU'RE NO QWASER, YOU AREN'T WEARING ANY CRESTS
I HAVE WADED THROUGH TEN AND FIVE BATTLE-FIELDS
WITH THIS WAR-HAMMER
AND YOU'RE FACING ME WITH NOTHING BUT YOUR BARE HANDS
YOU CAN-NOT HOPE TO WIN.
SUR-RENDER, I BEG OF YOU!!
RUSH
THEN
God ooo
ooo forgive me!
BOOM
BOOM

SLIDE
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
BAF
WITH THOSE FISTS
SSSSSSSSS
...you hope to break me?!
KOOM

HISSSS
?!
TOF
KRAK
COLLAPSE
@ULHH
stagger

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHH
WOOOOHHH
THE WINNER OF THIS BOUT...
THE SEVENTH MASK!


OH...
EVEN FATHER MWANGI, WHO'S SUCH A POWERFUL MAN...
YOU SOUND SAD THAT HE LOST

THE WAY HE WON...
IT WAS A PERFECT STRIKE AT ONE OF THE PRESSURE POINTS MENTIONED IN EASTERN MEDICINE
RIGHT BETWEEN THE NOSE AND THE UPPER LIP
ONE OF THE PLACES EVERY-ONE'S VULNE-RABLE AT

DO YOU KNOW HIM?
I DO

BACK IN MY HOME-TOWN, IN CROATIA...
HE ALWAYS LOOKED AFTER ME...

WHITE LILIES...

THE DEAN, SISTER WILMA...
I HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT HER IN SUCH A LONG TIME...
...BUT I THINK MAYBE SHE'D BE PLEASED TO HEAR IT...
...SINCE IT MIGHT MEAN I'VE FINALLY STOPPED DWELLING ON MY PAST...
...AND STARTED LIVING IN THE PRESENT.

rustle
I THINK...
SHING
TERESA
AMBUSH!!
WHOOSH
RRRRRRR
flutter
RRRRRR

SLASH
SLICE
WHOOSH
NOT HUMAN...?!
TWIST
CLANG
AAH !
!!
CUT
STAB

CLANG
THUD

WHOOSH

I'M FINE
BUT THESE THINGS
OUCH..!
WHAT ON EARTH ?
TERESA?

PUPPETS POWERED BY ELEMENTAL CIRCUITS ?

THE RULES SAY THAT IF YOU WANT TO TAKE YOUR FIGHT OUTSIDE THE ARENA, YOUR OPPONENT HAS TO AGREE
SO A SNEAK ATTACK LIKE THIS
IT WOULDN'T BE WORTH THE RISK OF BEING DISQUALIFIED
SSSSH
HOW-EVER...
MY NEXT OPPO-NENT...
IS "GEORGE SMITH" OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
SOME KIND OF FREELANCER
SOME-ONE ELSE, THEN?
I DON'T KNOW
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE WHO'D
OH DEAR...
YOU *REALLY* CAN'T THINK OF ANY-ONE?
OR MAYBE
YOU'RE JUST PLAYING INNOCENT IN FRONT OF YOUR UNSUS-PECTING PARNER?

AH, THE BITCH
YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS?
OH, LET'S SEE...
FIVE DAYS AGO
NO, SIX DAYS NOW
ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T DO SOMETHING...?

WHAT?
EVER SINCE THE CELEBRATION STARTED...
...ALL I'VE DONE IS FIGHT IN THE TOURNAMENT AND WAIT BY MAFUYU'S BED
OTHER THAN THAT...
...I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING AT ALL

HUH?
THEN...
HEY!!
EKATERINA!
COULD IT BE THAT WHOEVER THEY SAY TRIED TO KILL SMIRNOFF ACTUALLY WASN'T SASHA...?
IF SO, WHO THE HELL...?
FINE!
SINCE WE'RE MORE OR LESS STUCK ON THE SAME SIDE, I FEEL I SHOULD TELL YOU...
...THAT WHATEVER YOU DID OR DIDN'T DO...
...YOU'VE GOT SOME VERY POWERFUL ENEMIES HERE...
SO YOU'D DO WELL
...TO TREAD LIGHTLY.

...HN!
WE NEED TO START HEADING BACK
YOU SHOULD GO AND GET READY, SASHA
I'LL MEET YOU THERE
pant

I DIDN'T MEAN TO SNAP AT YOU
I'M SORRY
AND SEE IF I CAN FIND ANY CLUES TO WHAT JUST HAPPENED TO US
I JUST THOUGHT I'LL TAKE A LOOK AROUND TOWN
YEAH?
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO THAT'S SO IMPORTANT?
OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T
YOU KNOW I KNOW THAT
grab

AND YOU KNOW...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANY-THING
BE-CAUSE
I'M YOUR MARIA

YES...
freak
SASHA...

...EVEN IF YOU'VE GIVEN YOUR HE..RT TO M..FUYU-SAN...
click
haah

haah
RIGHT NOW
I'M THE ONE WHO GIVES YOU SOMA
ONLY ME

GEORGE SMITH, UNAFFILIATED...
...WILL FACE...
CLICK
...OF THE FAR EASTERN EXARCHATE, ALEKSANDR HEL!
BEGIN!
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STAND THERE?
WHAT'S THE MATTER?

EVEN IF THAT WAS ME, WHO IN HIS RIGHT MIND WOULD ADMIT IT?
HAH! WHAT A POINTLESS QUESTION!
YOU BE THE ONE WHO TRIED TO GET ME OUTSIDE THE ARENA EARLIER?
HEH
HE HE
TCH

I SEE.
YOU WON'T ANSWER.
WELL, THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM
YOU CAN PRETEND YOU HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT...
AND I'LL PRETEND THOSE WERE YOUR PUPPETS I WRECKED
HEH

AND?
YOU THINK YOU'LL CONVINCE ANYONE WITH THAT?
OH...
IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME!!
CHARGE!
HAH!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
KRAK
SPANG

YOU SOUND LIKE ANOTHER BASTARD WITH A GRUDGE...!
WHO ARE YOU?!
CLANG
NICE!
LOOKS LIKE I'LL HAVE TO KILL YOU QUICKLY!
NOT THAT YOU'VE EARNED IT
WHO INDEED?
!!
FRRSSHH

BRZ
KUH!
CHUNK
ALMOST
SSSSSSS
SSSSSSSSS
LASER?
GAMMA-RAYS...?
YOU'RE

OH, HUSH NOW!
LET'S KEEP THIS BETWEEN YOU AND ME
IF PEOPLE HERE KNEW I'M AN ADEPT...?
WELL, WHO KNOWS WHAT THEY'D DO?
SO YOU BETTER KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT...
OR YOUR MARIA WILL DIE.
?!

lean
SOMETHING...
SOMETHING'S WRONG...
DID I GIVE TOO MUCH SOMA?
NO, IT'S NOT THAT...

KLIK
KLIK

LOOM
...!!
IT CAME OVER ME SO SUDDENLY
BUT WHAT COULD IT BE?
stagger
KLIK KLAK
TAP
TAP
TAP
THEY'RE DRIVING ME TOWARD THE BACK STREETS...
haah
TAP
TAP
TAP
hahh
KLIK KLAK
hhaah

stumble
haah
ANH!

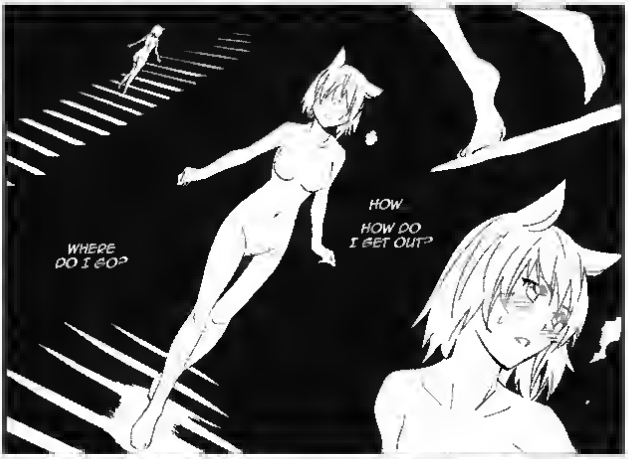
sway
BUT IT'S LIKE A LABY-RINTH
haah
THIS IS SUCH A SMALL TOWN
haah
stagger

WHATEVER'S HAPPENING TO ME...
IT HAS TO BE...
shiver

haah
AH
AH?
THUD

POISON?!

SOME-THING LIKE THAT
SHE'S HAD A TASTE OF A CERTAIN COBALT COM-POUND OF MINE
WHICH WILL SHUT DOWN HER BODY INSIDE AND OUT. BIT BY BIT
SO IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME
...BUT DON'T WORRY!
I'VE SENT MY PUP-PETS
TO KEEP HER COMPANY
GEORG ROUSSEAU, THE COBALT USER ONE OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES OF THE ADEPTS.
AND FRIEDRICH TANNER'S YOUNGER BROTHER.
A DIRTY PLAYER AND DEADLY SCHEMER, JUST LIKE HIS BROTHER.


WHERE DO I GO?
HOW
HOW DO I GET OUT?

OR
WHERE DO I WANT TO GO?

I'M NOT SURE
ALL I KNOW FOR CERTAIN...

...IS THAT I'M A MARI...
...AND IT'S MY DUTY TO GIVE MY LIFE TO MY OWNER
NO, I THINK YOU KNOW ME...

AND WHAT I WANT YOU TO DO
SASHA

... NO WHAT I WANT...

YOU SAID I SOUNDED LIKE SOMEONE WITH A GRUDGE?
WELL, CONSIDERING YOU CUT ME UP AND BURNED ME...
...AND THEN KILLED MY BROTHER — TWICE, EVEN...
...MAYBE YOU *COULD* CALL WHAT I HAVE A "GRUDGE".
NOW STAND STILL OR SHE DIES.
SEE CHAPTERS 28-29
...?!
YOU...
BRAT
DIDAT

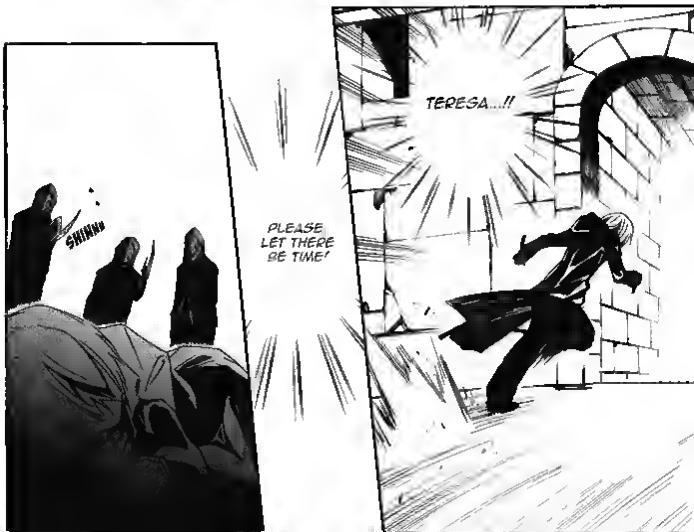
RREEE
KLAT
YOU RESIST?!
YOU THINK I'M BLUFFING ABOUT YOUR MARIA?!
WHOOSH
KRAK
I DON'T CARE!
THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO NOW!
GRYAT
GLOWK
TERES...
I WON'T DIE FOR HER.
I WON'T BLOCK DOWN FOR HER SAKE.
GGGGHHHH

NO, FOR HER..
...I'LL FIGHT!
KRRRR

SLICE
I'LL FIGHT YOU...
...SO I CAN SAVE HER!!

IN TIME
SPLIT
SAVE

AAAAAAAAA
THE WINNER OF THIS BOUT
ALEKSANDR HEL!
SLOP
SPLAT


SHING
PLEASE LET THERE BE TIME!
TERESA...!!

SASHA...
KEEP FIGHTING
WHAM
FWOOSH
KRANG
KRRRK
SKRNK

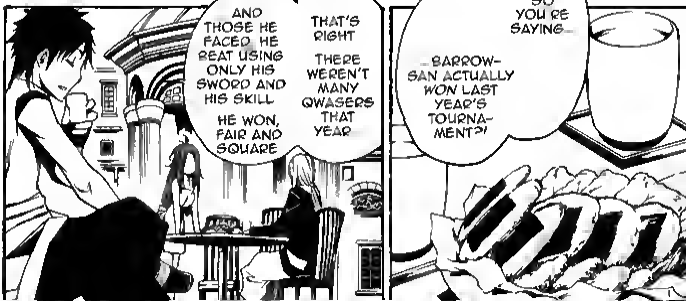
TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTING FINEMANS
WWW.GWAGHETTI.
SCANS FROM FAN-HUNTERS.COM

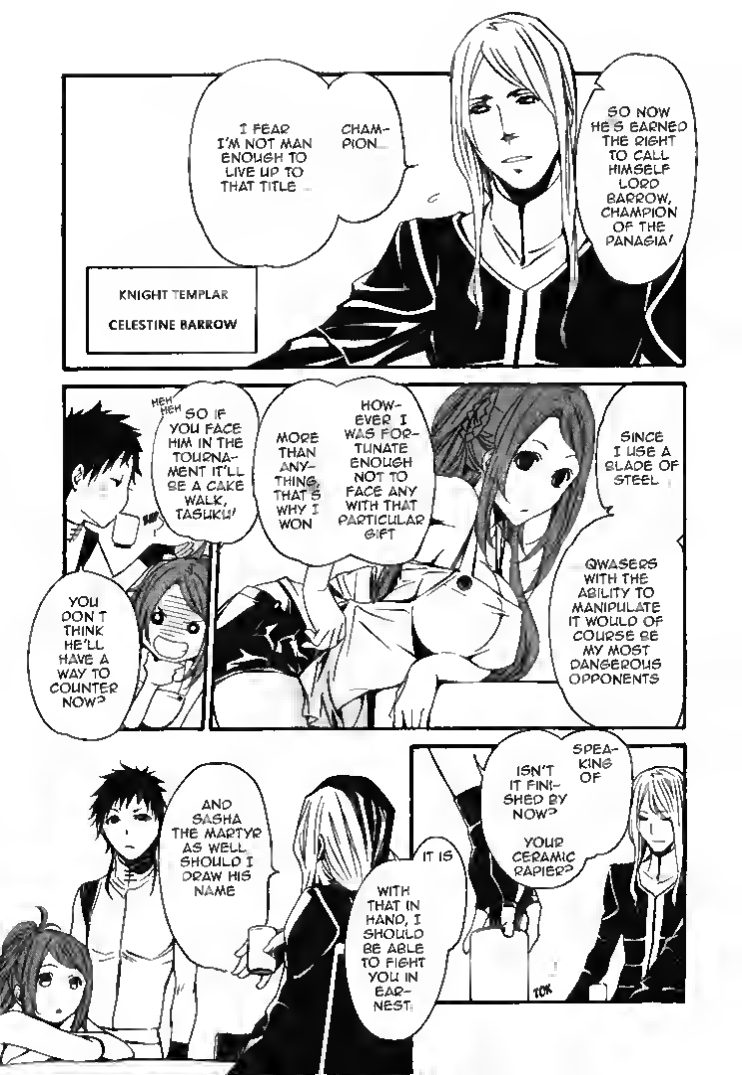
Chapter 69: The Corner of Reunions

CLANG
TANNNG
SHUNNNG
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
...!!!
CHAAA!!
TOO SOFT!
WHOOM
SHHHHHH!!

CHAKING
Storm Volte!
THOK
MAN, THAT ARM OF YOURS IS AS STRONG AS EVER...
...BROTHER BARROW

AND YOU'VE MADE GREAT PROGRESS, FUJIOMI.
WHOOSH
I'M SURPRISED!
BARROW-SAN TASUKU!
TEA'S READY!


WAIT, SO YOU'RE SAYING—
—BARROW-SAN ACTUALLY WON LAST YEAR'S TOURNA-MENT?!
THAT'S RIGHT
THERE WEREN'T MANY QWASERS THAT YEAR
AND THOSE HE FACED, HE BEAT USING ONLY HIS SWORD AND HIS SKILL
HE WON, FAIR AND SQUARE

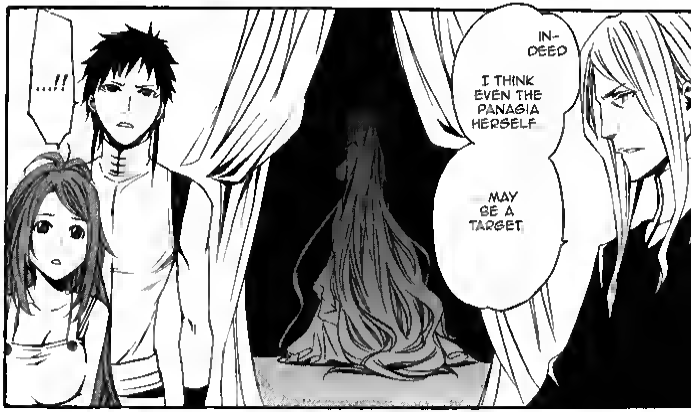

SO NOW HE'S EARNED THE RIGHT TO CALL HIMSELF LORD BARROW, CHAMPION OF THE PANAGIA!
CHAM-PION...
I FEAR I'M NOT MAN ENOUGH TO LIVE UP TO THAT TITLE...
KNIGHT TEMPLAR
CELESTINE BARROW
SINCE I USE A BLADE OF STEEL
HOW-EVER I WAS FOR-TUNATE ENOUGH NOT TO FACE ANY WITH THAT PARTICULAR GIFT
MORE THAN ANY-THING, THAT'S WHY I WON
QWASERS WITH THE ABILITY TO MANIPULATE IT WOULD OF COURSE BE MY MOST DANGEROUS OPPONENTS
HEH HEH
SO IF YOU FACE HIM IN THE TOURNA-MENT IT'LL BE A CAKE WALK, TASUKU!
YOU DON'T THINK HE'LL HAVE A WAY TO COUNTER NOW?
SPEA-KING OF
ISN'T IT FINI-SHED BY NOW?
YOUR CERAMIC RAPIER?
TOK
IT IS
WITH THAT IN HAND, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIGHT YOU IN EAR-NEST.
AND SASHA THE MARTYR AS WELL SHOULD I DRAW HIS NAME

shine
WONDERFUL!
MY WORD, JAPANESE TEA...
AHH!
IT'S SO RELAXING!
SIP
YEAH, IT'S JUST WHAT YOU NEED TO UNWIND!
YOU'RE SUCH AN INTERESTING PERSON, BARROW-SAN!
EVEN TASUKU LIKES YOU!
A LONG TIME AGO...
BROTHER BARROW CAME TO MOUNT KOYA TO TRAIN AND STUDY
IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM, I WOULDN'T FIGHT HALF AS WELL AS I DO TODAY!
OH, NOT AT ALL!
I ONLY PASSED ON WHAT HIS EMINENCE, THE ARCH BISHOP, HAD TAUGHT ME

BUT I DO WISH... I COULD'VE MET YOUR MASTER ONE LAST TIME HIS LOSS IS A GREAT SHAME...
THE OLD MAN, HUH? AND ALL HE LEFT ME WAS SOME CREEPY PROPHECY
BUT ABOUT THAT FUJI-OMI...
ARE YOU SURE HE DIED OF NATURAL CAUSES?
HUH?
I'M ASKING BECAUSE RECENTLY... A NUMBER OF SEERS AND PROPHETS HAVE BEEN ASSASSI-NATED ALL OVER THE WORLD
THE HIGH PRIEST OF THE PANGEIA'S PROPHECY MINISTRY
CIA'S COMMISSIONED ASTROLOGERS...
ONE AFTER THE OTHER...
ROTHSCHILD'S PERSONAL PROPHET...
THE OLD MAN... NO, I THINK IT WAS NATURAL...
HMM...

TURN
HOLD ON!
WHEN YOU SAY "PRO-PHET"...
YOU MEAN?

I SEE
THEN DESPITE THE LOSS I'LL THINK OF IT AS A BLESSING


...!!
IN-DEED
I THINK EVEN THE PANAGIA HERSELF
MAY BE A TARGET

WE FOUND YOU JUST IN TIME
CLINK
IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR PARALYSIS WAS CAUSED BY SOME KIND OF COBALT POISONING

ALL YOU NEED NOW IS A HOT BATH AND A MASSAGE TO DRAIN THE STIFFNESS FROM YOUR BODY
THERE SHOULDN'T BE ANY AFTER-EFFECTS TO SPEAK OF
pour
BUT YOU'LL BE FINE
AFTER THE MEDICINE I GAVE YOU
I...
SISTER WILMA...
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME
TRULY, I
THANK YOU SO MUCH
IF IT WASN'T FOR YOU, I WOULDN'T BE ALIVE
drip
THERE'LL BE TIME FOR TALK LATER

touch
HA HA...
YOU REALLY HAVE GROWN...
AND IN ALL MANNER OF WAYS...
slip
NOW...
LET'S GET THE POISON OUT OF YOU.
...!!
slide

?!
ARE YOU STILL WAITING FOR HIM TO LET YOU INTO HIS HEART?
HAAH!
WHAT...
WHAT ARE YOU...
JUST RELAX
TELL ME. ARE YOU STILL WAITING FOR SASHA THE MARTYR?
WILMA...
I...
WILMA, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
ΔΔ...
BECAUSE IF YOU ARE...
WE REALLY DID FIND YOU IN TIME.
squeeze

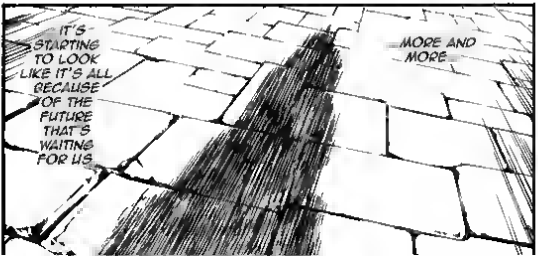
YOU NEED TO LEAVE HIM, TERESA
...?!
LEAVE YOUR SASHA...
...BEFORE YOUR BODY AND SOUL BECOME AS TAINTED AS MINE
HAAAH!
...MY SWEET TERESA
...PLEASE HEAR ME...

YOU HAVE MY DEEPEST GRATITUDE, MASTER VULCAN
AND TO THINK THE GREAT SMITH HIM-SELF... WOULD HAND THIS SWORD TO ME...
...S FINE
I'M PROUD OF THIS WEAPON...
...AND OF THE MAN I MADE IT FOR

tremble...
343...
344...
345...
EEEEEE
I SAID LET ME GO!
LET ME GO, YOU DIRTY OLD BAS-- TARD!
OLD MAN...

YOU WRINKLED OLD PRICK!
FUCKING SENILE BASTARD!
EARLIER TODAY...
...YOU FOUGHT A GREAT NUMBER OF CITY THUGS...
...ALL TO PROVE HOW "POWERFUL" YOU ARE.
AND YOU WON.
TELL ME, HOW DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL?
GOOD?

I USED TO JUST LET MY ANGER LEAD ME FROM ONE FIGHT TO ANOTHER

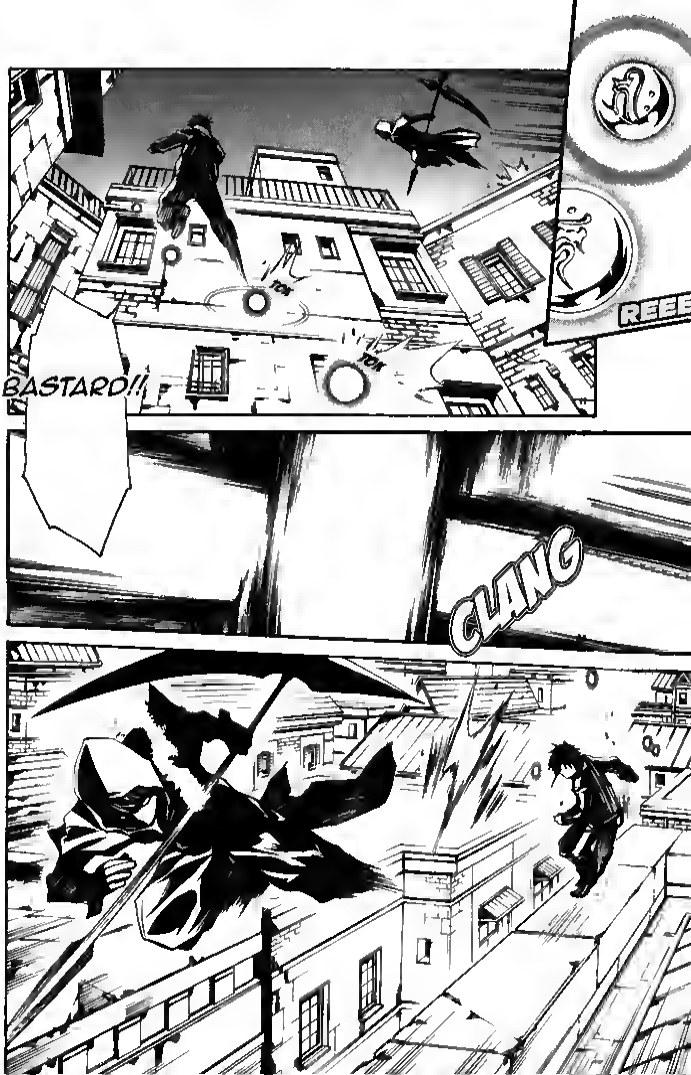


...OLD MAN
AND TO BE HONEST IT'S STARTING TO FEEL LIKE THIS BURDEN'S GETTING TOO HEAVY FOR ME
CRASH
CLATTER
FIGHTING?
CLANG
step
BRO-THER...?!
Storm Volte!
WHOOM

THUNK
!!
IM...
...POS...
SPATTER

TUMBLE
THUMP
THUD
BROTHER BARROW!!
GOD DAMN YOU...!
GLARE
loom
BUT HIS SWORD IS OF IRON!
SO HOW COULD IT ?

FOR BARROW!!
TOF
TOF
LEAP
BADUMBADUMM
THINK YOU CAN RUN?!


REEE
TCH
TCH
BASTARD!!
CLANG

...!
TOF
THE NEODYMIUM IS REACTING...
...WHICH MEANS IT'S FERRO-MAGNETIC.
WHOOSH
IT FEELS LIKE... IRON!
THIS IS WHERE YOU STOP!
CLENCH

EEEE

WHAT IS THIS?!
THE MAGNETISM... IT CHANGED?!
CLONG
ding
A FERRO-MAGNETIC BODY IS DRAWN TO MAGNETS...
...BUT BY HEATING IT TO THE CURIE POINT, 770°C* FOR IRON, THE MAGNETIC REACTION STOPS
!!
IT'S THE CURIE POINT!
*1420°F
HOPE YOU'RE READY...!
...HE'S AN IRON USER?!
HE'S MANIPULATING THE MOLECULAR VIBRATION IN THE IRON
THAT'S HOW HE HEATED IT.
BUT THAT MEANS...

NOW DIE!
WHAM
CRACK
WHAP
THUD
BAM

YOU

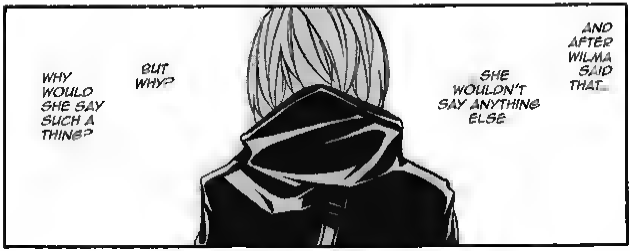
SASHA...?!

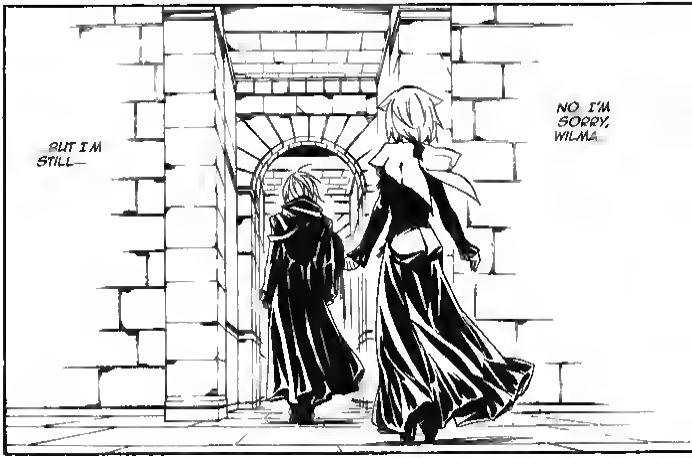
RRREEEEEEEE
KRRRR
GRIT
HAAAH!!
!!
WHOOSH

KABOOOM
BOOM
CLATTER
CRASH

WHAM

I'M SORRY ABOUT YESTERDAY
TRULY YOU WERE OUT LOOKING FOR ME...
IT'S FINE
I'M JUST GLAD YOU WERE SAFE
AND IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME WHO YOU MET OR WHO CURED YOU...
I ACCEPT THAT
SASHA...
TERESA...
YOU NEED TO LEAVE SASHA THE MARTYR.


WHY WOULD SHE SAY SUCH A THING?
BUT WHY?
SHE WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE
AND AFTER WILMA SAID THAT...


BUT I'M STILL—
NO. I'M SORRY, WILMA.

WELL, LOOK AT YOU!
WALKING AROUND AS IF YOU DON'T HAVE A CARE IN THE WORLD

CLANG
VULCAN MADE THAT SWORD
THEY SAY HIS WEAPONS CAN'T BE BENT OR BROKEN, NOT BY HEAT OR BY FORCE
YOU FORGOT THIS
WHERE WE MET LAST NIGHT
IRON MASTER
A QWASER DID THIS
WHAT IS THIS?
KILLING LORD RAPROW IN AN AMBUSH?
THAT WAS A BIG MISTAKE, SASHA

SNEAK ATTACKS ON THE OUTSIDE IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN, AS WE ALL KNOW
?!!
SO WHEN YOU WENT AND DID THAT
I MADE SURE TO GET THE APPROVAL OF ALL THE OTHERS STILL IN THE TOURNA-MENT
YOU THINK WHAT YOU DID IS SOME-THING I'LL JUST LET GO?!

slip
COME...
rustle
click

FOR ALL MY WISHES, I CAN'T MAKE THE FLOWERS BLOOM.
SO I'LL TEND TO OUR POWER INSTEAD.
— MY IRON MASTER

TRANSLATION CLEANING AND TYPESETTING FINEMANG
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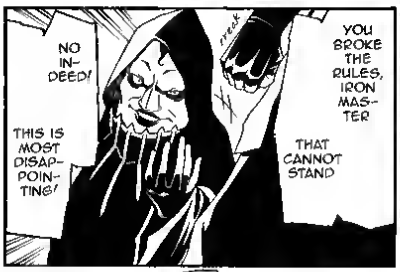
Chapter 70: The Empress Rises

LISTEN TO ME!
YOU KEEP SAYING THAT, BUT I DIDN'T DO IT


NO IN-DEED!
THIS IS MOST DISAP-POIN-TING!
YOU BROKE THE RULES, IRON MAS-TER
THAT CANNOT STAND

SASHA

YOU CROS-SED THE LINE
AND YOU GOT CAUGHT RED-HANDED
AND I THOUGHT I KNEW YOU
TOO BAD FOR YOU, SASHA
REEEE

AS DID WE ALL!
BUT NOW HE HAS SHOWN HIMSELF A COWARD, PLAIN AND SIMPLE...
AND COWARDICE MUST BE CORREC-TED!
SATTE
CLICK
IF YOU WON'T EVEN TRY TO UNDER-STAND
SHINN!
O, GOOD HEAVENS!
YE ART AS CHILDREN!
IS THIS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I TURN MY BACK?!

Chapter 70: The Empress Rises

THERE WILL BE NO PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE CELEBRATION!
KNOW THIS AND BE GONE, ALL OF YOU!
WHOOSH
I HAVE VERY HIGH EXPECTATIONS OF THEE, SASHA.
IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE.
SO IF THOU ART LOOKING TO FAIL...
...NEXT TIME DO TRY TO MAKE IT A LITTLE LESS TIRESOME!
GETTING FAVORS FROM THE PANAGIA HERSELF ALREADY?
YOU MOVE FAST!

HM...
SAVED BY THE BELL HUH?
SAVED?
IF ANYTHING, I'D SAY WHAT JUST HAPPENED ONLY PROVOKED EVEN MORE RESENTMENT AGAINST HIM
BUT HANA...
YOU KNOW...
I CAN'T QUITE COME TO TERMS WITH THE IDEA THAT SASHA KILLED BARROW
I KNOW, RIGHT?
SOME-THING LIKE THAT...
IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HIM AT ALL

SO YOU THINK FUJIOMI'S LYING?
NO
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN TOO DULL AND HONEST
...EXCEPT WHEN IT COMES TO WOMEN

IN OTHER WORDS
THEY'RE BOTH TELLING THE TRUTH?
IF SO

THE COPPER PRINCESS
I DIDN'T THINK I'D MEET YOU IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!
WERE YOU ALSO LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO KILL THE IRON MASTER?
AND, AH... ...WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY IT WAS, EH?
FATHER LUCANO OF METEORA, IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN?
DON'T COUNT ME IN AMONG THOSE IDIOTS
IF THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE NUMBERS, NONE OF THEM WOULD'VE DARED LIFT A FINGER
AND WOULD YOU INCLUDE ME IN THAT COMPANY?
TOK
GOOD-NESS, NO! WHATEVER GAVE YOU THAT IDEA?
EKATERINA KURAE
DID YOU KNOW THAT I'VE BEEN DRAWN AS YOUR NEXT OPPONENT?
sigh
FLIP

BY ALL MEANS, KEEP UP THE ROYAL PRETENSE IF YOU MUST
JUST REMEMBER THAT YOU'RE STILL A SUBORDINATE TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE ARCHBISHOP SMIRNOFF...
AND THAT MEANS YOU MUST FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS
SO...
WHEN WE FACE EACH OTHER IN THE ARENA...
...AS MY SERVANT...
...YOU WILL HAND ME MY VICTORY
AND MAY IT PLEASE YOU!
chuckle
DISGUSTING!
NAME-DROPPING SMIRNOFF LIKE THAT...
JUST TO MAKE SURE YOU'LL OBEY!
I—
SERVANT?
OBEY, YOU SAY...?

HANA
TREMBLE
TWITCH
REALLY, NOW...

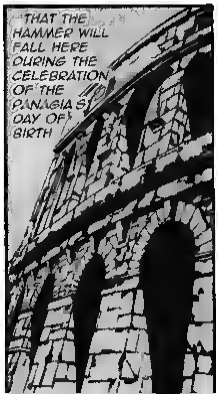
THERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING I WANT YOU TO DO—
sparkle

splash

THE NEWS THAT THE THEOTOKOS OF TSARITSYN INSIDE THE WATER SANCTUARY WAS A FORGERY...
...THREW EVERYTHING INTO CHAOS.

drip
drop

ESPECIALLY THE SITUATION BETWEEN ATHOS AND THE ADEPTS...
AND EVEN BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATORS OF ATHOS ITSELF.
THEN THERE'S SMIRNOFF AND METEORA WITH HIS ARMY OF EXTREMISTS, TO FURTHER CONFUSE THE ISSUE...
...AND WHILE ALL THIS IS GOING ON, MANSOBY HAS INITIATED ANOTHER POWER STRUGGLE AMONG THE MODERATES, POSSIBLY BACKED BY SQOLE.


THAT THE HAMMER WILL FALL HERE DURING THE CELEBRATION OF THE PANAGIA'S DAY OF BIRTH

ALL IN A MAD SCRAMBLE TO FIND THE TRUE THEOTOKOS OF TSARITSYN
THIS DISUNITY WILL CRACK THE VERY FOUNDATION OF ATHOS MAYBE EVEN CAUSE A SCHISM
AND IT'S GETTING MORE AND MORE CLEAR...

THE OFFICIAL REASON BEING...
THAT SASHA TRIED TO ASSASSINATE SMIRNOFF
WHILE SOME SAY IT'S BECAUSE SASHA SAW SOMETHING INCONVENIENT
snap
AND NOW SOMEONE IN SMIRNOFF'S CAMP HAS MARKED SASHA FOR DEATH
HOWEVER SASHA DENIES BOTH ACCUSATIONS
crack
rustle
WHAT'S MORE SASHA'S BEING BLAMED FOR BARROW'S MURDER AS WELL
slip

THE PROBLEM LIES IN FINDING OUT EXACTLY WHO DID WHAT IN THIS MESS!
BUT IF IT CAN BE DONE, THIS ENTIRE SITUATION MIGHT BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL...
HAVE YOU FINISHED WITH THE PREPA-RATIONS?

IT JUST TOOK A WHILE TO MAKE SURE
YEAH.
THIS IS ONE OF THE GUARDS WHO WAS THERE.

A COUPLE OF DAYS AGO, SMIRNOFF HAD A MEETING WITH SOMEONE FROM THE OUTSIDE
YOU WERE ONE OF THE GUARDS
KAH!
YES
PLEASE BEGIN
GRR

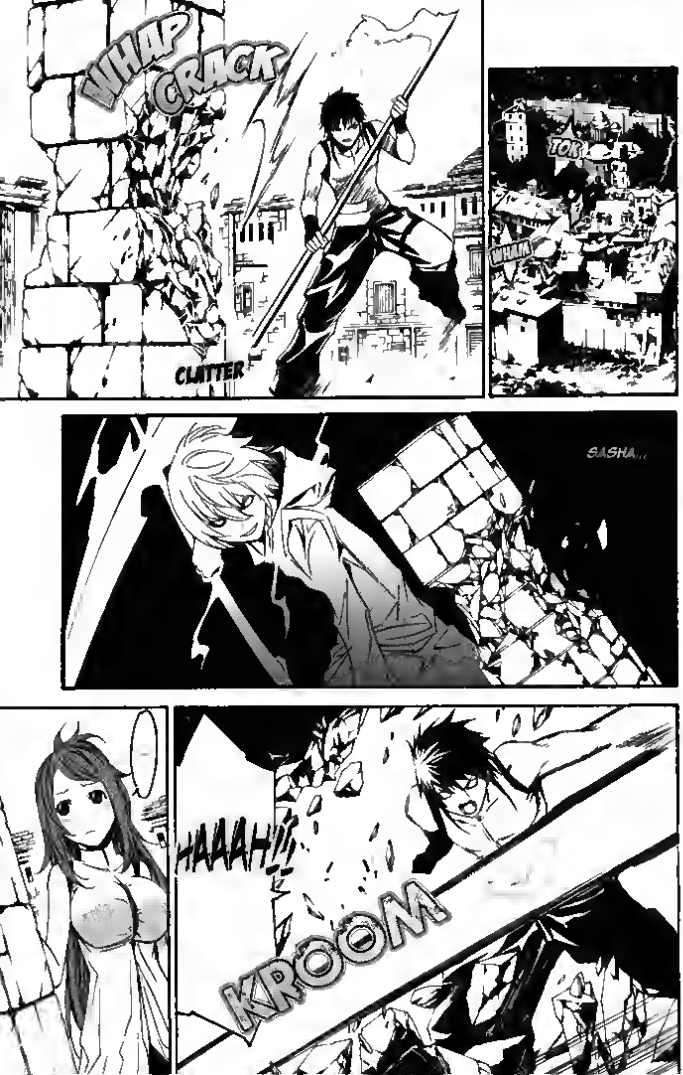
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU SAW
ALL OF IT, IN DETAIL
HA!
YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET ME TO SAY ANY-THING?!
OF COURSE I DO
flick
SLASH
KYAAA!
RRIIIP
GO AHEAD, DO YOUR WORST!
I'M A GUARD OF THE HOLY SANCTUM!
strain
YOU CAN'T BREAK ME!
flutter

I...
WON'T...
BREAK!
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW MUCH YOU HURT OR HUMILIATE ME...
HANA...
OH, I JUST LOVE THAT LOOK IN HER EYES
I THINK IT'S TIME TO SHOW HER WE'RE SERIOUS
tug
SURE THING
REEEEE
AMONG OTHER THINGS, SHE CAN APPLY ELECTRICAL STIMULATION TO YOUR NERVES WITH ABSOLUTE PRECISION
HANA HERE HAS BEEN BLESSED WITH A CERTAIN CIRCUIT
...?!
IT REALLY IS A...M...ZING EXPERIENCE

...!!
THUD
rustle
WUH
WAIT

BY MOVING SLOWLY
AND USING THE CURRENT AS AN AID RATHER THAN RELYING ON IT ALONE
SHE'LL SOON HAVE YOU SOARING HIGHER THAN YOU'VE EVER BEEN BEFORE
AAH!
THIS WON'T—
AH!
THIS—

A...
AA...!!


WHAP
CRACK
CLATTER
TOK
SASHA...
HAAAH!!
KROOM

I'M SORRY TASUKU
I KNOW I YOU WON'T LIKE IT
step
...BUT I HAVE TO DO THIS
...IF WHAT SASHA DID AND WHAT HAPPENED TO MAFUYU MIGHT BE CONNECTED
I'm sorry Tasuku
I've gone to talk to Sasha -Mutsumi
I'M GOING TO FIND OUT...
SO
!!
LOOKING FOR ME?
SASHA!

HIS EXCELLENCY SMIRNOFF HAD A MEETING
THE NEGOTIATOR BROUGHT IN SOMEONE
A MAN THEY CALLED "MELOSZ"
YES MY MY QUEEN
AND YOU'RE SURE OF IT?

A RING OF GOLD
A SNAKE WITH AN APPLE IN ITS MOUTH
THE NEGOTIATOR HAD A RING

HANA
ALL THIS TIME, I THOUGHT FATE WAS OUR CONSTANT ENEMY
HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA HA HA
KATJA-SAMA...?
HAH...

BUT THE WAY IT LOOKS RIGHT NOW...
I'D SAY FATE'S CHANGED SIDES

AAAAHH
ALESSANDRO
LUCANO
OF METEORA
WILL FACE
OF THE EUROPEAN EXARCHATE,
EKATERINA KURAE!

rustle
AFTER ALL, WE HAVE TO MAKE IT LOOK REALISTIC...
BUT BEFORE YOU DO, YOU'LL HAVE TO FIGHT BACK WITH SOME VIGOR.
NOW THEN, COPPER PRINCESS.
MAKE YOUR EXIT SOON ENOUGH AND ALL WILL BE WELL.
PRESS
...IF YOU HOLD BACK, I WON'T FEEL MUCH
NNGH
CLICK
AND CONSIDERING I'VE SACRIFICED MY SENSE OF TOUCH UNTO GOD...
THIS MAN HAS HAD HIS ENTIRE BODY...
...BIOLOGICALLY REMODELED.
KRRRRR
INDEED...
I DOUBT I'LL FEEL ANYTHING AT ALL!
KRRRRKK
BLIIP
LUCANOID? METEOR...

LOOM
...HIS EPIDERMIS, HIS OUTERMOST LAYER OF SKIN IS BOTH INSENSATE AND SUPER HARD...
BY FUSING IT WITH CALCIUM AND CUTICLE...
OOOH!
MAMA!
SHK
THOK
GGGGHH
OHO! YOU SLASH ME WITH YOUR COPPER
...BUT IT'S TOO SLOW AND TOO LIGHT TO DO ANYTHING...

KRRRANG
KRRNK
TO GET AROUND THAT SKIN
THERE HAS TO BE A WAY
BUT SCRATCH ME!
FUCK!
HE'S TEARING THE COPPER LIKE IT'S MADE OF TISSUES!
MMMMMM
SSSSHH
SSSSHH
SSSSHH
SSSSHH
IS TO MAKE USE OF ANASTASIA'S FLEXIBILITY
THE ONLY WAY TO BEAT HIM

TONG
KRRK
GRRT
I'M JUST TOO HARD!
SEE?
YOUR COPPER BENDS LIKE GRASS ON MY SKIN!
SKRANG
TING
KRNK
BUT LET'S SEE WHAT I CAN DO WITH YOUR PUPPET!

KRRRK
I GUESS THIS IS AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY...
YOU MAY SURRENDER NOW
IF YOU DON'T
I'LL CRUSH YOUR COPPER LADY...
MAMA!
IN FACT, MAYBE I'LL CRUSH HER ANYWAY!
WHOOSH
KRR
STOP IT!!

KRRRRR
REEEEEE
RRRANNG
GRAB
YANK

SLAM
I DID TELL YOU TO STOP
AHHH
KRRK
SSSSSSSS

clatter
WHICH MEANS THAT IF YOU TAKE A HARD ENOUGH IMPACT
YOUR INSIDES WILL TAKE ALL THE DAMAGE
HM
AS I THOUGHT
YOU'RE HARD ON THE OUTSIDE
BUT BENEATH ALL THAT ARMOR, YOU'RE STILL JUST FLESH AND BONE
YOU
YOU DEFY HIS EXCELLENCY...?
sunny
YOU SEE I WANT TO HEAR WHAT THE PANACEA HAS TO SAY, TOO
SO I'VE DECIDED I'M GOING TO WIN
OH, JUST A BIT
THERE'S BEEN A SMALL CHANGE OF PLAN
BECAUSE I'VE FOUND A WAY TO HURT HIM!
THAT'S OKAY, I'M NOT SCARED OF HIM ANYMORE!
DO YOU REALLY THINK
HIS EXCELLENCY WILL ALLOW IT...?

I HAVE A LOT OF WRONGS TO SET RIGHT
...BEING TREATED AS SOME KIND OF SERVANT.
I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW IT'S CHAFED...
MMMM
LIFT
YOU WILL FEEL MY ANGER
THROUGH AND THROUGH!
KKRRRRRRR
AND I'LL START WITH YOU
LUCANO
MMMMMMMM
MERCY! HAVE MERCY!
MY QUEEN...!
gulp
THERE IS NO MERCY.

THERE IS ONLY
THE
EMPRESS!
BOOM

AAAAHH
HERE IS YOUR WINNER...
EKATERINA KURAE!
KHHH!
MUTSUMI...!
TOF TOF TOF
CLINK
WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GO AND SEE HIM ALONE?!
OH... OH FUCK...
CLACK

TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTING: F.NEMANG
WWW.OVALSEPTIC
SCANS FROM RAW-HUNTERS.COM

Chapter 71: What Power Is

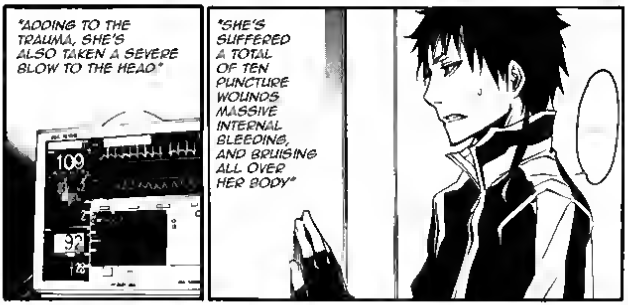
AAH!
I'M GETTING ALL NOSTALGIC!
splash
2 WEEKS AGO, OFF THE COAST OF THE AKTÉ PENINSULA

WWWWWW
IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
...COMING HOME!
THE COLOR OF THE SEA...!
HOW LONG'S IT BEEN?
THE SUN AND THE AIR...
splash

COMING HERE WITH ME?
SO I TAKE IT...
...YOU AREN'T REGRETTING IT?
THERE IT IS!
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D GET TO SEE MOUNT ATHOS AGAIN...

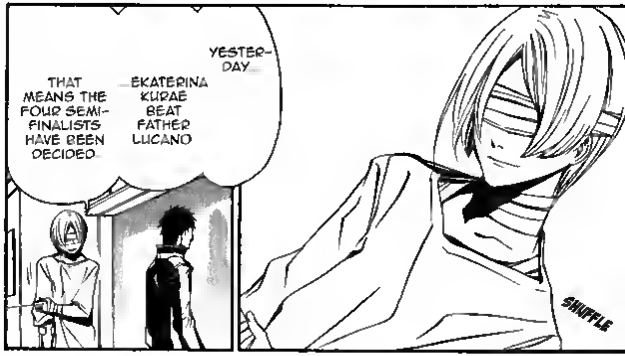
REGRET-TING IT?
HA HA!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
TASUKU...
I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS HAPPY SINCE FOREVER!
UH...
SHOVE
THUMP
AND BESIDES, I THINK I'VE GOTTEN TOO USED TO BEING YOUR MARIA TO LET YOU GO ALONE!

BEEP
BEEP
BEEP


"ADDING TO THE TRAUMA, SHE'S ALSO TAKEN A SEVERE BLOW TO THE HEAD."
"SHE'S SUFFERED A TOTAL OF TEN PUNCTURE WOUNDS MASSIVE INTERNAL BLEEDING, AND BRUISING ALL OVER HER BODY"

...!!
"SHE MIGHT WAKE UP TOMORROW, OR IN A WEEK FROM NOW"
"OR SHE MIGHT NOT WAKE UP AT ALL."
"WE GIVE HER ABOUT A 50-50 CHANCE OF REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS."

I WANT YOU TO KNOW I FEEL TERRIBLE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HER
POOR THING...
CLACK

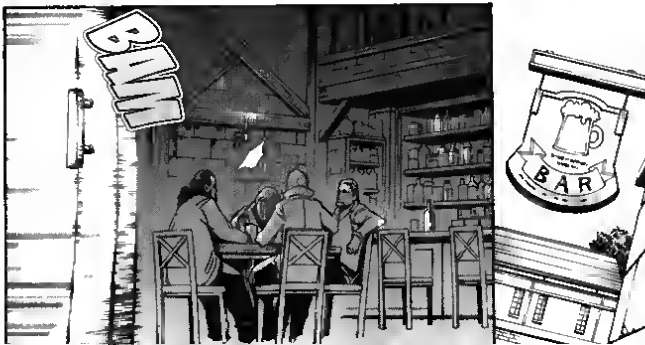

YESTER-DAY...
EKATERINA KURAE BEAT FATHER LUCANO
THAT MEANS THE FOUR SEMI-FINALISTS HAVE BEEN DECIDED...
SHUFFLE

TWO MATCHES TO SEE WHO'LL SQUARE OFF FOR THE PANAGIA'S BLESSING
EKATERINA WILL FACE THE KENPO FIGHTER "THE SEVENTH MASK"
AND THEN THERE'S YOU...
VERSUS THE IRON MASTER, "SASHA THE MARTYR"

YOUR GIRL...
I HEARD SHE HAD AN ACCIDENT WITH SOME IRON
GRIT
AND I WANT TO HELP
ALL THE MIGHT OF METEORA IS YOURS
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK
YOU WANT TO PUNISH WHOEVER DID THIS EVIL THING I KNOW...
I'VE BEEN SAYING ONE THING OVER AND OVER....
...FOR HOURS NOW.
PROMI-SING MY WOMAN...
...THAT I WILL MAKE HIM PAY.
SO DO YOU *REALLY* FUCKING THINK...
...I'LL COME CRAWLING TO *YOU* AND BEG FOR **HELP**?!

SUCH BLOOD-LUST...!
SOME... SOME INFOR-MATION, THEN...
THERE'S A BAR AT THE OUT-SKIRTS OF TOWN.
I HEAR SOMEONE THERE SAW WHEN IT ALL HAPPENED...
FWAP
THAT GUY'S LOOKING SERIOUSLY PISSED...
AND IT SEEMS METEORA IS REALLY PUSHING THE ANGLE THAT SASHA'S THE ONE WHO DID IT

BUT SERIOUSLY, SASHA DOING THAT TO MUTSUMI?
NO
NO WAY!
REGARDLESS...
IT'S LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE THIS ISN'T GOING TO STOP...
UNTIL SASHA AND FUJIOMI ACTUALLY TRY TO KILL EACH OTHER
LET'S JUST HOPE IT WON'T COME DOWN TO THAT
MUTSUMI...
WAKE UP SOON...
BUT I GUESS THAT'S JUST UP TO LUCK NOW, ISN'T IT?


BAM!
BAR

SOME-
ONE IN
THIS
PLACE...
...SAW
WHAT
HAPPE-
NED TO
MUTSUMI.
?
MUTSUMI?
OH
YEAH,
THAT
GIRL
ME...
I WAS
STUCK
AT THE
TOURNA-
MENT
WHEN IT
HAPPE-
NED
THUNK
WHAT'S
YOUR
EXCUSE?
WHA?
KRAK

KRSSSHH
CRASH
WHY DIDN'T YOU DO SOME-THING?!
WHY DIDN'T YOU HELP HER?!
WHY?!
WHY? THAT'S ALL I WANT TO KNOW!
WHY DO THE PEOPLE I LOVE ALWAYS...

HOW MANY MORE BECAUSE OF ME, BECAUSE OF THIS POWER?
HOW MANY MORE?!
CHOKE
WHO?!
HUUH
CLATTER
YOU SAW WHO DID IT!
WHO?!

I JUST WALKED BY
AND THERE HE WAS, DOING THOSE THINGS TO THAT GIRL!
AND I RAN!
I'M JUST SOME GUY!
WHAT THE FUCK COULD I DO?!
HE'D KILL ME WITHOUT EVEN LOOKING!
IT WAS THAT...
THAT IRON BOY!

SASHA...!!

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN, SASHA?
WHEN DID YOU BECOME LIKE THIS?
FIRST YOU KILLED BROTHER BARROW...
AND NOW MUTSUMI IS...
step
I HEARD ABOUT MUTSUMI-SAN
I'M SO SORRY
GET OUT OF MY WAY

rustle
HAH!
IF YOU THINK YOU CAN DO IT, DO IT!
YOU NEED TO STOP GOING AFTER HIM
...OR I'LL STOP YOU MYSELF!
BUT...
...YOU'RE WRONG IF YOU THINK SASHA HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!
SSSHH
SHING
WOOSH

SLICE
!!
KUH
YANK
I DON'T THINK SASHA DID IT
THOK
I KNOW IT
AND I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO MAKE HIM HURT

grab
SOMA...
YOU GOT ANY IN YOU?
IF YOU WANT TO HURT ME, GO AHEAD
I'LL STILL BELIEVE SASHA'S INNOCENT
AND MUTSUMI-SAN...
WHAT WOULD SHE THINK?
clench
WHY?!
WHY DO YOU DO THIS FOR HIM?!
WHY DO YOU PROTECT HIM, EVEN WHEN YOU KNOW MAFUYU'S THE ONLY WOMAN HE'LL EVER LOVE?
BECAUSE...
...I'M HIS MARIA

AND AS A MARIA...
I'M SWORN TO GIVE LIFE TO MY QWASER
MUTSUMI FELT IT TOO...
...FROM BACK WHEN SHE WAS HIS MARIA
IT'S A BOND THAT GOES DEEPER THAN LOVERS
EVEN DEEPER THAN FAMILY
...AND THAT'S WHY...
...SHE DARED TO GO SEE HIM ALONE.
BECAUSE SHE KNEW IN HER HEART
...THAT THERE WAS NO WAY HE COULD'VE DONE WHAT PEOPLE SAY HE DID
SHUT UP

SHUT UP!
SHUT YOUR MOUTH OR I'LL RIP YOUR TITS OFF! I'LL—
SQUEEZE
WHO...
WHO IS THAT?
HE LOOKS LIKE A BEAST...
AND THOSE EYES...
THEY'RE MINE...

AND I DON'T THINK I CARE
ERRR

THE TOURNAMENT OF THIS YEAR'S CELEBRATION...

...OF THE PANACIA'S DAY OF BIRTH...
...IS NOW AT THE FIRST OF ITS SEMI-FINAL MATCHES!

THEY SAY HE KILLED SOME-ONE!
AND OF THE FAR-EASTERN EXAR-CHATE...
ALEKSANDR HEL!
OF MOUNT KOYA...
FUJIOMI TASUKU!
AAAAH
BEGIN!!
THE MAGNET GUY'S GOT A HUGE ADVAN-TAGE...
HE'S AN IRON USER
HEY NOBODY-MILIM!
YOU CAN BEAT THAT COWARD!

HEY, SASHA...
GOT ENOUGH SOMA?
JUST ASKING, 'CAUSE I'VE GOT YOUR MARIA...
AND I'VE GOTTA SAY SHE'S JUST DELI-CIOUS!
OH, AND HER SOMA'S PRETTY GOOD TOO...
SO I GET FRAMED AND NOW YOU'RE GETTING EVEN WITH ME FOR THINGS I NEVER EVEN DID IN THE FIRST PLACE?
FRAMED?
OH, PLEASE...
BESIDES, AT THIS STAGE, YOU REALLY THINK IT MATTERS ANYWAY?
YOU BAS-TARD...
JUST FOR ONCE...
rustle
...STOP ACTING LIKE AN ANIMAL AND THINK ABOUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

YOU'RE ONE
RRREEEE
WHOOM
WHOOSH
...TO TALK!
IS HE AIMING AT ME OR MY SCYTHE?

THE SCYTHE!
Tremble!
SSSHOOM
HAH! THE CURIE POINT AGAIN?!
REEEEE!
...AFTER LAST TIME?!
CLANG
THINK I DIDN'T SEE THAT COMING
YANK
!!

SCREEEE
SHINNN
CLANG
TANG
CLANNG
WHOOSH
CLANG

TAWNNG
SHOULD'VE KNOWN THOSE TWO'D PUT ON A FLASHY FIGHT
BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD HOW QUIET THE CROWD IS?
NOT REALLY
I MEAN FOR BEING SUCH AN EVEN MATCH
SASHA'S CONSTANTLY HEATING HIS IRON TO GET AROUND TASUKU'S MAGNETISM
AND EACH TIME TASUKU IMMEDIATELY REPLIES BY ADJUSTING HIS NEODYMIUM
WHOOSH
RRRRRR

INSTANTANEOUS CHECKS AND BALANCES, ALL ON A RAZOR'S EDGE!
A STUNNING BATTLE...
AND IT'S OVER
ONE SMALL MISTAKE ON EITHER SIDE...
SHIFT!

THOK
YOU'RE HATED!
YOUR MAGIA HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM YOU!
WHY DO YOU KEEP FIGHTING?
I WANT TO KNOW, SASHA!
WHY?
WHOOSH
SO HOW CAN YOU STILL FIGHT LIKE THIS?
WHAT DRIVES YOU?
DO YOU SEE NOW TASUKU?
WHAT YOUR POWER TRULY IS?

I DON'T KNOW...
IT'S JUST WEIRD. I DON'T SEE ANY REASONS FOR IT.
YOU INSIST ON NOT THINKING...
...EVEN WHEN YOUR MIND...
...IS THE ONE THING THAT'LL LET YOU CHOOSE TO NOT FIGHT.
NOT FIGHT...?
SLIDE

THUD
SASHA
I WANT YOU TO TELL ME SOME-THING
OUR POWERS
WHY DO WE HAVE THEM?
WHAT ARE THEY?
SSHHH
AM I STILL LIKE THAT?
CLONG

...
THEY'RE OUR SINS.

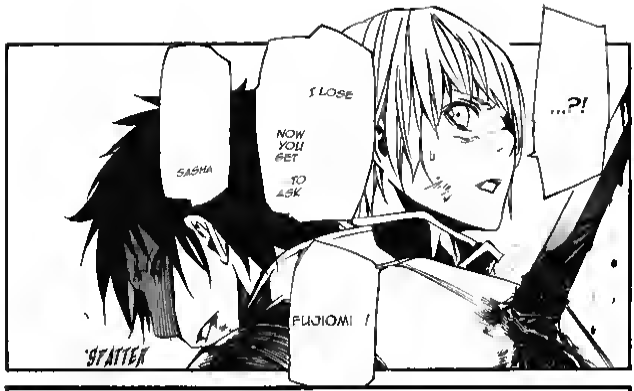
RREEEEEEEE
OUR SINS?!
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHEN PEOPLE HAVE POWER, THEY USE IT.
SO WE ALWAYS HAVE TO REFLECT ON OURSELVES AND WHAT WE DO.
RREEEEEEEEE
REFLECT...?!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
OF COURSE YOU DON'T!
SHINN!
YOU'RE STRUGGLING WITH AN ANSWER WHEN THERE IS NO REAL QUESTION!

BUT THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE'VE DONE, ALL THE SINS WE'RE GUILTY OF BECAUSE WE USED OUR POWERS!
AND YET WE STRUGGLE AND FIGHT TO KEEP LIVING...
EVEN AS WE KNOW IT MEANS MORE SUFFERING, FOR US AND FOR OTHERS!
YOUR POWER IS YOUR SIN, AND IT'S YOUR OWN CROSS TO BEAR...
Лови!
...SO TAKE IT!
...!!

AS LONG AS YOU DO THAT—
REFLECT, TASUKU, AND THINK FOR YOURSELF
CLANG
CLANG
TANG

CHK?
Ugh

THUNK

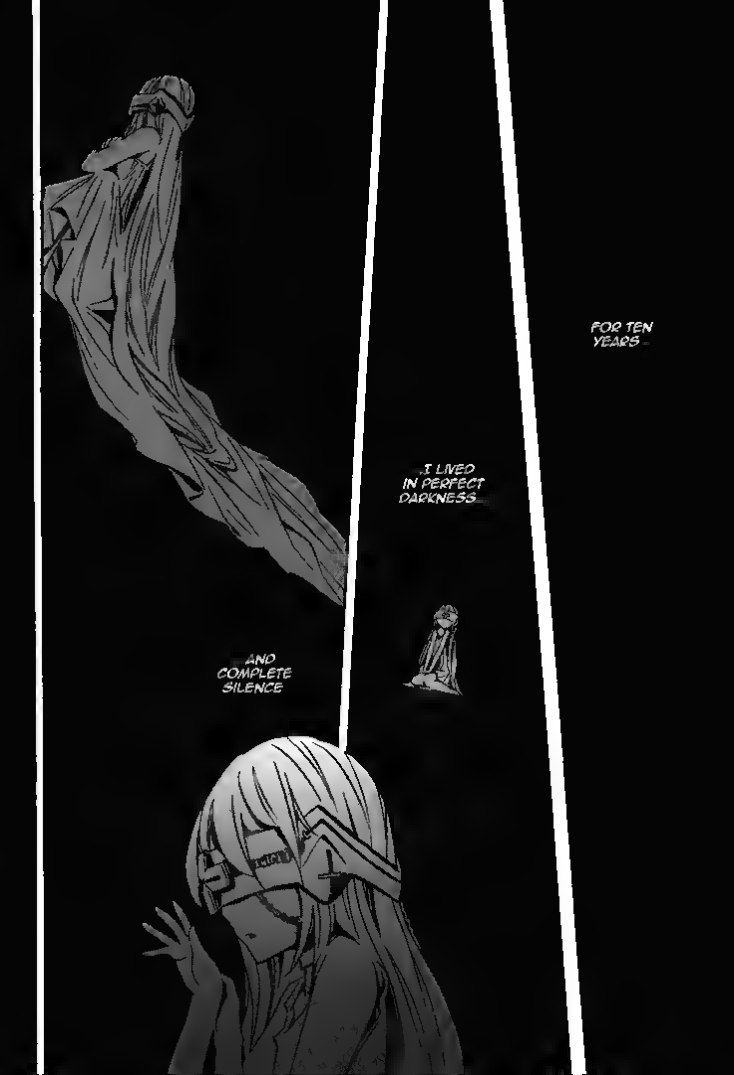

...?!
I LOSE
NOW YOU GET TO ASK
SASHA
FUJIOMI !
SPATTER

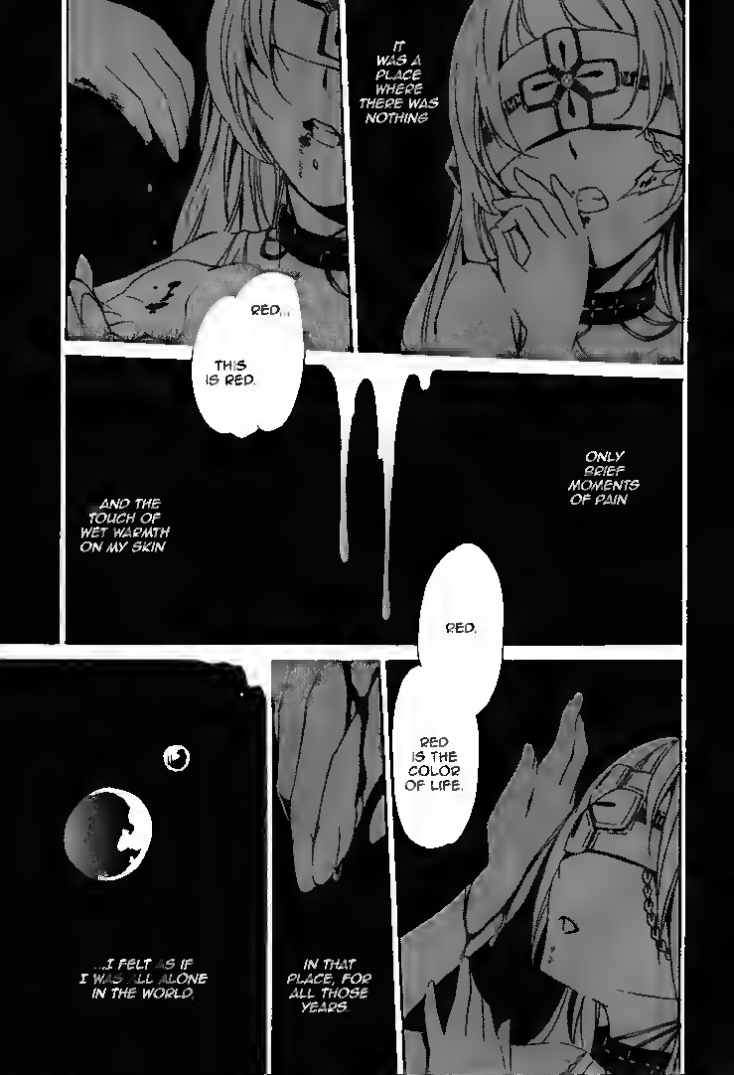
HERE'S YOUR WINNER...
ALEKSANDR HEL!
WHAT DID YOU DO...?

BUT...

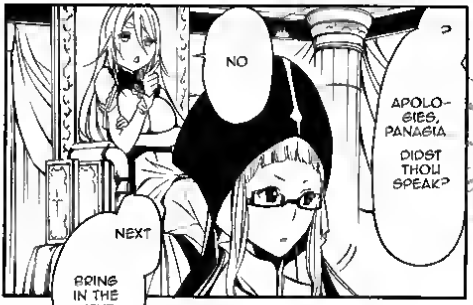
TRANSLATION, CLEANING AND TYPESETTING: FINEMANG
WWW.OWASEE.TK
SCANS FROM: RAW-HUNTERS.COM

Chapter 72: The Two Sides of Truth

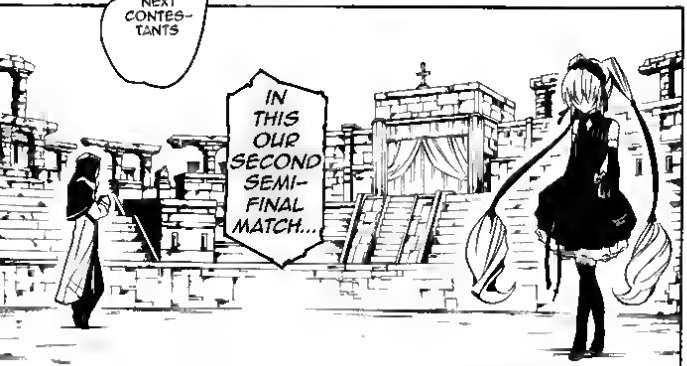

FOR TEN YEARS...
I LIVED IN PERFECT DARKNESS...
AND COMPLETE SILENCE


IT WAS A PLACE WHERE THERE WAS NOTHING
RED...
THIS IS RED.
ONLY BRIEF MOMENTS OF PAIN
...AND THE TOUCH OF WET WARMTH ON MY SKIN
RED.
RED IS THE COLOR OF LIFE.
...I FELT AS IF I WAS ALL ALONE IN THE WORLD.
IN THAT PLACE, FOR ALL THOSE YEARS.

AAAAH!
HERE'S YOUR WINNER
ALEKSANDR HEL!
!
spat
OH
I DON'T THINK THAT WAS HIS INTENTION
IN-DEED
BUT WITH THE RUMOR THAT HE KILLED LORD BARROW NOT ONLY PERSISTING BUT SPREA-DING
IT MIGHT BE
THAT HE'S SHOWING SIGNS OF DES-PERA-TION

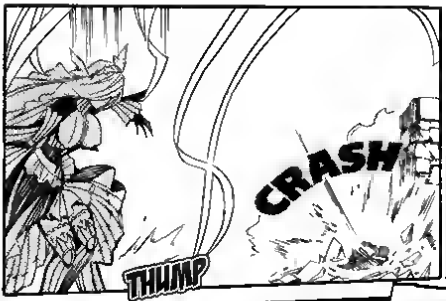


AND HE'S DOING ALL THIS BECAUSE OF THAT GIRL, MAFUYU...



...EKATERINA KURAE OF THE EUROPEAN EXARCHATE...
...WILL FACE...
..."THE SEVENTH MASK", UNAFFILIATED!
I HAVE A HYPOTHESIS REGARDING THE FACE BEHIND THAT MASK
Седьмая Маска
"THE SEVENTH MASK"...
BEGIN!!
SSSHH
-MAMA!
BUT THE ONLY WAY TO PROVE IT
THUMP THUMP THU

IS TO PULL THE MASK OFF!
KRAK
SSSSHH
SSSSHH
KRAKKRAK
I CAN'T DEPEND ON THE HAMMER IN THIS FIGHT
SRANG
?!
SO FIRST I'LL GO FOR A FEINT, AND—


CRASH
THUMP

HERE'S YOUR WINNER
EKATERINA KURAE!
clink clatter

Не знаю, что он задумал...
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO...
Сделать из меня посмешищ
YOU'RE MAKING A FOOL OUT OF ME

Со мной!
OFFENDS ME!
Такое унижение я никогда не забуду!
THIS IS SOMETHING I WILL NOT FORGET!
Но сражаться в полсилы
BUT THIS HALF-HEARTED EFFORT OF YOURS

ALEKSANDR HEL..!
WILL FACE
...EKATERINA KURAE!
WITH THIS VICTORY..
...THE FINAL MATCH IS SET!
AAAAAAAH
ONLOOKERS ARE NOT PERMITTED!!
WE ASK FOR YOUR UNDER-STANDING!
...THE FINAL MATCH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE PANAGIA'S PRESENCE ONLY!
AND AS CEREMONY DICTATES
385
Tasuku
rustle

THAT GUY
WHAT A FOOL
scrunch
step
LATELY, SEERS AND PROPHETS
HAVE BEEN ASSASSINATED ALL OVER THE WORLD
WHAT OF IT?

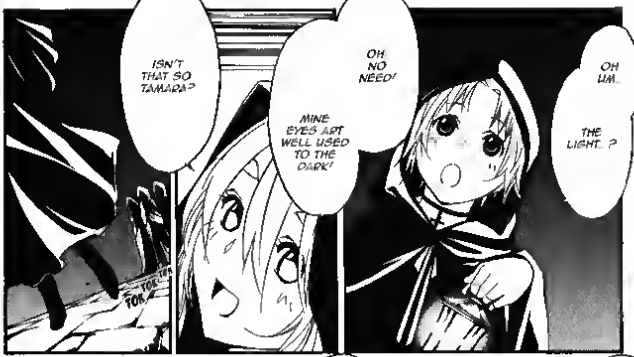
step
NEVER MIND
TAMARA?
...I WOULD BE REWARDED
THOU PROMISED THAT IF I BEHAVED DURING THE CELE-BRATION...

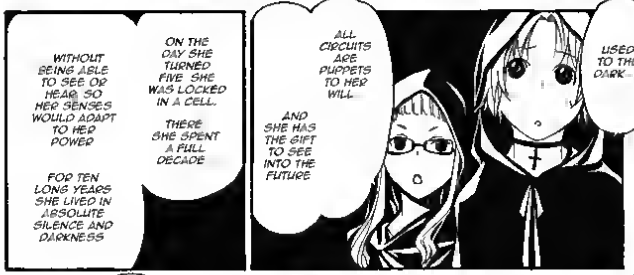
splash
WITH THAT IN MIND...
THERE IS SOMETHING I WANT
HMM...
I DID PROMISE SOMETHING LIKE THAT, DIDN'T I?
LET'S TALK ABOUT IT AFTER THE CELEBRATION
NO!
IT HAS TO BE RIGHT NOW!
AND IF THOU WOULDST SEEK TO DENY ME, TAMARA

...WELL!
THEN I SHAN'T APPEAR AT THE FINAL MATCH AT ALL!
sniff

PANAGIA I DO BEG OF THEE...

REST EASY, NOT A SINGLE SOUL WILL KNOW!
THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT PUNISHMENT MY UNCLE WOULD HAVE ALL OF US ENDURE
THOU MUST NOT MAKE THY PRESENCE KNOWN IN ANY WAY!
IF WORD SPREADS THAT WE STOLE THEE INTO SOOLE
TOK


ISN'T THAT SO TAMARA?
OH NO NEED!
MINE EYES ART WELL USED TO THE DARK!
OH UM...
THE LIGHT..?

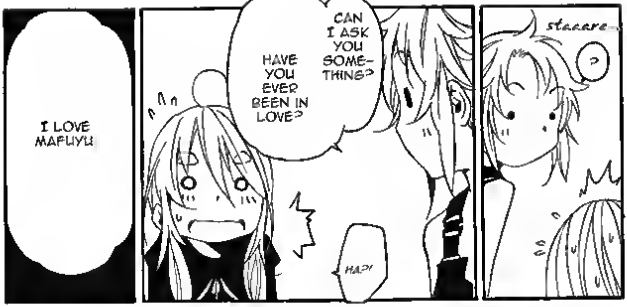

WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO SEE OR HEAR, SO HER SENSES WOULD ADAPT TO HER POWER
FOR TEN LONG YEARS SHE LIVED IN ABSOLUTE SILENCE AND DARKNESS
ON THE DAY SHE TURNED FIVE, SHE WAS LOCKED IN A CELL.
THERE SHE SPENT A FULL DECADE
ALL CIRCUITS ARE PUPPETS TO HER WILL.
AND SHE HAS THE GIFT TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE
USED TO THE DARK...?

IN FACT, AT FIRST
SHE WAS NEVER SUPPOSED TO BE THE PANAGIA AT ALL
IN MANY WAYS...
SHE'S A SPECIAL CIRCUM-STANCE
THAT'S

shirt
AND IN MANY WAYS
SHE'S STILL THAT POOR LONELY CHILD AT HEART
ORIBE MAFUYU...
SO THOU ART THE ONE SASHA'S FIGHTING FOR
WHO RE YOU?
!!
THINK

THANKS SO MUCH!
REALLY!
I'M ELIZA-BETH
BUT PLEASE, CALL ME LIZZIE!
SPLASH
I WAS SENT HERE TO ASSIST THEE!
INDEED I WAS!
THAT... ...IS RIGHT!
MA'AM SAID SHE'D SEND SOME-ONE TO HELP OUT!
OH, YEAH! I TOTALLY FORGOT!
PAT
ANYWAY...
I CAN'T EXACTLY DRAG HER TO THE BATHS
SO I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GIVE HER A WIPE DOWN
HERE YOU GO!
AND THIS IS MAFUYU
SHE'S LIKE THIS BECAUSE OF A CURSED CIRCUIT
SO IT'S GOOD TO USE A BIT OF PRESSURE!
mnh
YEAH!
AND SHE IS UNCON-SCIOUS
...BUT THEY SAY HER BODY CAN STILL FEEL
I... I DO THIS...
flop

FEEL THIS?
WE'RE ALL DOING OUR BEST HERE, MAFUYU.
RUB
RIGHT NOW...
SASHA AND TERESA ARE OUT THERE, FIGHTING FOR YOU
BUT I THOUGHT SHE WAS THY MARIA?
AND YET...
SHE IS NOW WITH ANO-THER GWA-SER...
SO THAT HE CAN FIGHT FOR THE SAKE OF THIS GIRL...?
TERESA...
IS SHE SASHA'S MARIA?
THAT'S RIGHT!
dab dab


I LOVE MAFUYU!
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE?
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
HA?!
staaare
?

THEY'RE MY FAVORITE PEOPLE
THEY'RE ALL FIGHTING SO HARD FOR EACH OTHER
NOT THE WAY SASHA DOES, BUT STILL
AND TERESA LOVES HER TOO

AND TO BE WITH THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE
IT CAN ONLY MAKE YOU HAPPY

YOU KNOW, EVEN IF YOU ALREADY HAVE PEOPLE THAT YOU CARE FOR...
I'M SURE... THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR MORE!
AFTER ALL...
YOU'LL ONLY BE THE HAPPIER FOR IT!
OH?
YOU AND MAFUYU...
YOU HAVE SUCH SIMILAR FACES!
YOU'RE BOTH SUCH CUTIES!
AHAHA
IS... IS THAT SO...?
YUP!

...TO LIKEN ME TO THAT GIRL?!
AND I AM COMPLETELY HAPPY!
I AM!
WHAP WHAP
KLIP KLOP KLIP KLOP
hmph!
I MUSTN'T LET THAT FOOLISH COMMENT AGGRAVATE ME SO...
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE OF SASHA!
GOOD EVENING

OH MY!
SO YOU DECIDED TO SHOW UP AFTER A—
SISTER WILMA
DID I KEEP YOU WAITING?
YES—
step
—BUT I WAS HOPING TO THE VERY END—
THAT YOU WOULDN'T COME

ARE YOU CERTAIN YOU'VE THOUGHT THIS THROUGH?
I AM.
VERY WELL
THEN WHAT MUST HAPPEN WILL HAPPEN.
TOF
KRONK
WHOOSH
SKREEEE

KRAHNG
DESPITE HOW HE ALWAYS LET HIS FEELINGS CONTROL HIM
TASUKU
REEEEE
...WHEN IT MATTERED, HE ALWAYS TRIED TO TELL THE TRUTH...
WHICH MEANS THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER TO THIS!
BOOM

TOK
HE SAID HE SAW ME DO THINGS I KNOW I DIDN'T DO
WRAP
SHING
YANK
SO THE SIMPLEST ANSWER IS...
THAT HE MADE A MISTAKE!
HE SAW THE SAME "ME" THAT TRIED TO KILL SMIRNOFF!
THAT MURDERED BARROW!
HE THOUGHT HE SAW ME, BUT HE ONLY SAW SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE ME!
AM I GETTING CLOSE?!
PNF
TAK
WHOOOMM
CLINK

THE SAME "ME" THAT TORTURED MUTSUMI
TOK
AND WHY WOULD WE DO THESE THINGS YOU IMPLY?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW
HOW-EVER...
IF I GO BY THE FACT THAT SEERS AND PROPHETS HAVE BEEN MURDERED ALL OVER THE WORLD...
...I'D SAY YOUR SCENARIO WOULD PLAY OUT LIKE THIS.
YOU LOSE YOUR SEMI-FINAL MATCH AND DISAPPEAR.
THEN YOU KNOCK ME OUT AND TAKE MY PLACE IN THE FINAL MATCH...
...WHERE ONLY THE PANAGIA WILL BE WATCHING.

TO KILL THE PANAGIA!
THAT'S WHAT YOU BASTARDS HAVE HAD IN MIND ALL ALONG!
AND I'LL BE RIGHT AT HAND TO TAKE THE FALL
SHE'LL BE IN EASY REACH TO KILL
HOW ABOUT THAT?
LISTEN. I THINK I'VE BEEN GOOD ENOUGH THIS WHOLE TIME
grab

WHOOSH
toss
HA!
MY TIME AS THE "SEVENTH MASK" IS OVER!
MASK

REEE
CARE-LESS OF YOU TO LEAVE ME SOME IRON!
I'VE BEEN ITCHING TO FIGHT YOU
HE TURNED THE CHAIN INTO CLAWS!
HE'S AN IRON USER TOO?!
KRRRRRK
SO HOW ABOUT WE JUST DO THIS YOU AND ME
AND YOU CAN TRY TO SETTLE YOUR SCORE RIGHT HERE AND NOW!
SHINNNG
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT
SURE, LET'S SETTLE THIS

YOU...
YOU KILLED THE KNIGHT TEMPLAR WHILE PRETENDING TO BE ME.
YOU MADE MY EX-MARIA THINK I WAS THE ONE WHO TORTURED HER.
REEEE
AND BECAUSE OF YOU
I WAS SUPPOSED TO GET MY OWN FRIEND'S BLOOD ON MY HANDS.
IF THIS POWER IS MY SIN
CREAK
GROAN
SHHFF

CHI!
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
THOK
...I SHALL LET IT REFLECT YOUR CRIMES BACK UPON YOU.
...AND MAKE YOU ATONE!

CLANG
SSHHH
THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

WHEN IT COMES TO FORCE...
...YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE!
THUD
?!
TING
NEVER ASSUME
LET'S SEE WHO'S GOT THE BIGGER POWER, SHALL WE?
RE

?!
WHAT ?!
PHOOM
WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW...
LOOKS LIKE I JUST WON!
BAM
creak

I JUST KNEW IT
WHEN YOU'RE UP AGAINST YOUR OWN ELEMENT, YOU HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE
stagger
BOOM
WHEN TWO WAVE FIELDS THAT HANDLE THE SAME ELEMENT COLLIDE...
THE RESONANCE CAN CAUSE ELEMENTAL COLLAPSE!
AND THAT'S WHY...
..I'VE TRAINED MY FISTS!

NEODYMIUM ORBS...?
DIDN'T MEAN TO KEEP YOU WAITING...
SO YOU'RE FINALLY SHOWING YOURSELF

BESIDES, I HAVEN'T EXACTLY BEEN MYSELF LATELY
HEADLINERS SHOW UP LATE.
...BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT IS.
BAM!

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